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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/970,840	10/05/2001	Steven W. Trovinger	10013506	1610

7590 01/21/2003

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EXAMINER

KIM, EUGENE LEE

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3721

DATE MAILED: 01/21/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

4CT

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

09/970,840

Applicant(s)

TROVINGER ET AL.

Examiner

Eugene Kim

Art Unit

3721

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the corresponding address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-17 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-17 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120**

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)                                  | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____.  |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                         | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) <u>2</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                                    |

**DETAILED ACTION**

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112***

1. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

2. Claims 1-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

In claim 1 line 5, it is unclear as to what "one of around " is referring to.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Trovinger WO 00/18583 in view of Shingo (#4,304,561). Trovinger shows a fold blade 217, a fold roller 232, drive means for moving at least one of the blade means or roller means as shown in figs 16-22 so that the fold roller passes around the folding blade 217. Trovinger shows fold flap means 230 and discloses that pinch wheel assemblies which contain the fold roller means 232 may be determined by the various widths of the sheets to be folded so that a number of folding wheel assemblies may be used (p.22 bottom) which reads on sub rollers. The folder assembly includes a plurality of fold rollers as shown in figs 14, 15 (p.23 3<sup>rd</sup> paragraph) and the fold rollers comprise

complementary spring loaded disks (p.24 lines 4+). Trovinger also discloses that the drive means can cause the fold rollers to slide along the fold (p. 26 bottom to top of p. 27) by putting the fold rollers on pivoting arms which reads on moving the fold roller and fold relative to one another. Trovinger does not show the folding blade having a rounded folding surface. Shingo shows a folding blade 17 with a rounded edge 18 wherein the rounded edge is in contact with the workpiece (claim 2). This is so the film is folded accurately without producing a crease that could injure the workpiece (col 2 lines 1+). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to provide Trovinger with a round edge blade as taught by Shingo to eliminate injury to the folded workpiece by eliminating sharp creases. Regarding the pivoting flap fold means, the examiner notes that it is well known in the art to pivot elements for adjustability purposes. Regarding the actual axis the rollers rotate about is a matter of location of parts. The rollers can be either vertically or horizontally oriented and actual orientation does not have any bearing on the invention. Little patentable weight is given to location of parts unless there is some criticality or unexpected result from the location of parts. See *in re Japikse*, 86 USPQ 70 (CCPA 1950). Regarding claims 11-12, Shingo shows a blade that is mounted a slider 36 which is adjustable within recess 35 adjusting the blade as required. Since the blade comprises both the slider and blade means in combination, this reads on two sections of the blade movable since the slider and blade are both movable.

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Eugene Kim whose telephone number is (703)308-1886. The examiner can normally be reached on Tuesday-Friday 7:30 a.m - 6:00 p.m.

The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703)305-3579 for regular communications and (703)305-3579 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703)308-1148.



Eugene Kim  
January 15, 2003